

The New Constitution.

The Convention, which happily for the honor of North Carolina, has at last adjourned, directed a new Constitution to be submitted to the votes of the people of the State. This new Constitution is presented as an entirety and must be acted upon as such. The people have no option in the matter save to accept all its provisions, or to reject them all, and as one of these provisions renders in future any further change or amendment extremely difficult, it behooves every voter to reflect well before he agrees to fasten upon the State a Constitution which, for many years, it will be impossible to alter. We are opposed to the adoption of this new Constitution on many grounds. In the first place, we have an aversion to almost all "constitutional amendments," at this time. Our Radical brethren have made us dislike even the name of constitutional amendment. We distrust any thing that has received the commendation of the late Convention, as a general rule, and especially do we think its action in this matter very suspicious. The ordinance adopting the proposed Constitution was one of the latest acts of the Convention, having been passed 25th June.

It is required to be voted upon in the first week of August. It was ordered to be published in two Raleigh papers and in no others. The result must necessarily be, that with the present limited mail facilities in the State, only a very small portion of the people will be able to inform themselves as to the merits of that upon which they are required to vote. Economy could not have been the motive for this, as an adjournment one week previous would have saved the State money enough to have scattered copies of the Constitution broadcast over the land. It is worse than mockery to submit a Constitution to a people for ratification without giving time for consideration, reflection, and investigation, and it really seems as if the Convention intended to require the people to vote with the same freedom and intelligence which they themselves were compelled to exercise in the earlier days of its first session, when their ordinances were passed merely to record telegrams and decrees emanating from Washington City. We are happy to believe, however, that the people of North Carolina still consider the State officers, at least, as servants and not masters, and intend to submit to no insolence from them. We therefore desire further time for a full consideration of the merits of the proposed changes, to some of which we have now insuperable objections.

We object to that clause which provides for the election of Magistrates by the people, for we regard it as the first step in a wrong and very dangerous direction. In our opinion, the purity and integrity of our Judges can only be preserved by their independence of both popular and governmental favor. This independence cannot exist when the tenure of office is dependent on popular elections. The experience of other States is decidedly opposed to the policy of the proposed change. Some change indeed was necessary in reference to our Magistrates, but we do not believe this change to be right in itself or that the people desire it.

We object to that clause which renders members of the Legislature ineligible to any other office, though some of the recent elections would seem to indicate the necessity as well as propriety of such a rule. The clause, however, will not accomplish the object for which it was intended, for it will only transfer electioneering from the floors of the Halls to the lobbies. It will not suppress it. It gives to a single county the power to thwart the wishes of the balance of the State. We need, and have the right to the services of our ablest men in the Legislative Halls, but we can not expect to obtain them if we thereby disfranchise them. If the clause be adopted, we are forced either to disfranchise our best men, or to send inferior men to the Legislature. This is neither politic or just. The class of men from whom our other officers, both State and Federal, ought to be selected is the very class we ought to find in our Legislatures. Our legislators ought to be our best men, the new Constitution proposes to make them political enemies.

We object to that clause which prescribes the form of oath. Upon this point we are happy to have the opinion of so distinguished a patriot and jurist as Judge Manly. He says:

In art. VII, sec. 9, a form of oath is indicated for all State officers upon entering on the discharge of their duties. This is a novelty in our Constitution and is different from the form prescribed by law in the Revised Code, Cap. 76, sec. 4. The interpolation of this section seems to be intended to change our respective relations to the National and State governments in some way. By sinking the old form of oath, which promises "faith and true allegiance to the State," a fundamental principle of our Federal relations seems to be ignored or denied. I object to it as *ex post facto* in the great argument of State rights which it now becomes us to hold with the sense and patriotism of the country. I object to it as a side blow at a principle which ought to be met fairly and openly, if met at all, and as calculated to debase the State from the position of sovereignty and dignity which it has ever been supposed to occupy to the position of a dependency upon the United States. I desire to maintain the relations between the National and State governments, without abating a title from either. As our democratic fathers have settled them, so I wish to keep them with all proper honor to each in its legitimate sphere of action. I am for keeping the oath of office as our fathers framed it, if they have kept it when reviewing their organic laws from time to time, down to the present day. I want nothing more. I am unwilling to take anything less. This change is deemed a grave difficulty in accepting the new Constitution.

To the clause which renders it so difficult to obtain amendments in future, we do not object in itself, but as a part of the Constitution which must be ratified altogether or rejected altogether, and to other parts of which we have such serious objections, it is so obnoxious as to make us reject the whole instrument. We do not think the public mind is capable yet of fully and calmly exercising its reasoning faculties; that it has yet had time to settle down to its accustomed healthy condition for thought and reflection, and, fortunately, delay can do us no harm, for if we reject the new Constitution, we will simply go on under the old one, under which we have lived so long and for a time so happily. The men of the Convention of 1835 were certainly equal to those of the Convention of 1865 in brains as well as in patriotism;—then there were such men as Macon, Gaston, Meares, Fisher, Outlaw, Toomer, Wilson and Morehead—now we have Settle, Bryan, (Kirk's officer), Pool, McLaughlin, Caldwell, of Burke, McDonald, Hagahan and Odum. We may well be pardoned for preferring the work of our fathers to that of our cotemporaries.

There were no traitors in that Convention, at least, none so lost to shame as publicly to avow their treason in the face of the Convention of the people of North Carolina. Traitors are unfit to make constitutions for the patriotic people of North Carolina. Men so weak, or so wicked as deliberately and knowingly to commit treason once, can never be again safely trusted. Reconciliation does not cure treason.

We shall then oppose the adoption of the new constitution because we object to its source; because there is not sufficient time given for its con-

sideration; because it contains provisions to which we can never give our assent, and which, if once adopted, cannot be changed without the greatest difficulty, and because the ills we have, resulting from our old, time-honored constitution, are not so great as to make us desire to fly to those we know not of.

The National Convention.

Although one month yet remains before the meeting of the National Union Convention, its effect upon the Radicals is already manifest. For several days past, letter writers have predicted that the announcement and the grand scale upon which preparations are being inaugurated for the Convention had greatly agitated the Radical camp. The telegraph has already announced the resignation of Postmaster General Dennison, and the rumor that Attorney General Speed and Secretary Harlan would soon follow. If this welcome intelligence can only be attended by the resignation of the "divine Stanton," the Convention in its incipency will accomplish as much as we might have hoped for in its full tide of success. For if there be one wish more predominant than another in the Southern breast, it is to be delivered from the tender mercies of the present Secretary of War.

The Southern people must then warily support a movement, the inauguration of which is attended with such favorable results. Our readers will know that we were not satisfied with the original call, nor were the subscribing names altogether such as gave the assurance that the movement would assume a truly national character. The manly and patriotic address of the Democratic Senators and Congress went far, however, to dispel any fears we may have had upon this subject, and while still warmly protesting against some of the planks contained in the original call, we cannot but foresee in the great movement which has found endorsement by the conservative men from Maine to Florida, the ground-swell which must uproot from its firm foundation, the Radicalism which has for several years rioted in power, and is now wasting the energies and destroying the manhood of the Government.

There are many cardinal points upon which the representatives of the North can meet those of the South in a spirit of unity and harmony, the restoration of the Government in all its departments, the maintenance of the Constitution and the Union in all their republican simplicity and purity, and the rights of the States to control all questions of internal policy, including the right of suffrage. Upon these fundamental principles the national men from every State can heartily unite, and for their triumph have the forty-one conservative men of Congress asked the people of every State and Territory to respond to the movement. They say:

Therefore, to preserve the National Union, to vindicate the sufficiency of our admirable Constitution, to guard the States from covert attempts to deprive them of their true position in the Union, and to bring together those who are unconstitutionally severed, and for those great national purposes only, we cordially approve the call for a National Union Convention to be held at the city of Philadelphia on the second Tuesday (13th) of August next, and to endorse the principles therein set forth.

For these reasons also will the Southern people endorse this call and respond to the invitation.—And, in appointing delegates to this Convention, the South ought and no doubt will send men, who will truly and faithfully represent its present feelings and principles. We cannot afford by a sacrifice of our honesty, in order to pander to a known feeling of the North, or what the timid among us suppose to be a feeling of hostility towards former "rebels," to send such men as desert the South in her hour of tribulation and danger. These miserable spavns would as readily desert the Union and "the flag," if they were called upon to interpose their bodies between them and impending danger. These men can neither represent the loyalty nor manhood of our people. Nor, on the other hand, should we send men, who, now that the war is over, have not honestly and truly accepted the logic of events and are unwilling to abide by the result. Her representatives are those, who, true in the hour of her terrible struggle, exhibit the decision of an enlightened and enlarged statesmanship in acquiescence in the duties of defeat by attempting an early and honorable restoration of her political and friendly relations with her former confederates of the Union.

In order, therefore, that our people may be truly represented by such men as will not only meet with a warm reception at Philadelphia, but who will, while reflecting credit upon us, be those of our own choice, we sincerely hope that the people of every county will send such men to their District Conventions as will reflect the wishes of their people in this particular. We want neither timid time-servers nor senseless brawlers, but our most experienced and talented men.

So far, we have heard of no movement in this country. It seems fixed that there is to be a Convention at Goldsboro', and we deem it highly important that New Hanover County should be represented. Certainly in a matter of such moment, our people can lay aside their indifference to all political matters and give a portion of one day at least, to respond to the earnest appeal of those noble men at the North who are doing brave battle in the interest of the whole country and for our good. Let us meet together and appoint a few good men to represent us at Goldsboro'. If the proposed movement result in no benefit to the country, let not its failure be laid at our doors.—In its success may depend our release from the political thralldom that now binds our industry and limits our energies, and on its deliberations may hinge the destinies of the country.

Our Fire Department and the City Government.

We are gratified in noticing among the proceedings of the Board of Aldermen, that the Mayor, Jas. G. Burr, Esq., and the City Marshal were empowered to make a loan of twenty thousand dollars, to be applied to the purchase of a steam Fire Engine, Hose Carriage, Hook and Ladder, Truck and other necessary apparatus for the Fire Department of the city. This is, indeed, a step in the right direction and one which will meet the approval of every property owner and taxpayer in Wilmington. The want of efficient means of controlling fires has, within the past few months, cost our people many times the amount necessary to place our Fire Department in a condition to render successful aid in stopping the progress of any of the fires to which we are ordinarily subjected to. We hope soon to be able to chronicle the success of the committee in their efforts to raise the necessary funds.

In this connection, we desire to record our testimony to the faithful manner in which our city officials are discharging their duties. We do not believe that there is a city in the United States more highly favored in this respect than we are.

We know that the rigidity and impartiality with which many of the reforms inaugurated, have been adhered to, may appear harsh to many, and caused some complaint, but all good citizens should not only acquiesce in them, but give our officials a hearty support. Their labors are devoted to the good of the entire community, and we believe if they are supported by the approving sentiment of the citizens, their endeavors will be crowned with much success.

The efficiency of our police is attested by the limited number of crimes and disturbances which occur in our midst. While our exchanges, even in North Carolina, record almost daily the success of the burglar and the acts of the rioter, such occurrences here scarcely furnish an item for our very industralious "local."

"The Situation and its Consequences."

Now I hold that nothing was settled either logically or otherwise by the war, except that we were unable at the South to make good our right to action the principles upon which our resistance to the general government was based. Whether such resistance consists with the doctrine of our forefathers, and the political and social organizations which they set up, stands at it stood before, and now as well as heretofore in all time to come, is judged by the eternal principles of truth and justice. No one but a poltroon was ever yet beaten out of an opinion; much less can the immutable principles of right be subverted by brute force. Wager of battle settles no principle, but only a controversy.

Correspondent of the Northern Commercial.

The utterance of such truths as the above is as refreshing as a draught of water from a cool spring is to a tired soldier on a hot day, and whenever we hear them, we cannot help feeling cheered and believing that better days are yet in store for us. Our people have been so depressed by the dreadful calamities that have overwhelmed them that in their depression they have allowed many things to pass in silence that deserved, at the least, a protest. Their silence, however, in the terrible times, that we now believe, are happily passing away, cannot be fairly construed into an assent to the many mad and foolish propositions that have been laid down in their hearing. Thank Heaven, we begin to breathe freely once more, and again feel that we can give utterance to truth without the fear of arrest and imprisonment.

Among these propositions we know of none more dangerous in tendency and pernicious in consequences, than the truism which affirms the necessity of accepting the situation and all that logically and legitimately follows therefrom. It is dangerous and pernicious, not because it is untrue in itself, but because it can so readily be used by bad and designing men to mislead and deceive a brave but unfortunate people, earnestly desirous of performing their duty.

We are told that we left our cause to the arbitrament of the sword, and that having done so, and the decision having been against us, it becomes us as a brave and honest people, to abide by the decision and to accept the situation and its consequences. But is this a true statement of the case? Far from it. We committed not the justness of our cause, but the maintenance of it, to the sword. We knew then, as we know now, that musket and cannon cannot effect the right, although they may prevent the maintenance of it. We submitted to the arbitrament of the sword the question of might and the decision having been against us by a demonstration of our inability to contend with our Northern brethren, we are bound by all the consequences that flow from our defeat. We admit this freely and fully, and we intend, honestly, to respect the decision, because it is the decision of the tribunal to which we appealed upon the question we submitted.

The justness of course, the correctness of the principles involved and the rectitude of our intentions—in a word, the question of right—we did not submit to the arbitrament of the sword, or to that of any other tribunal, save that of "the Supreme Judge of the world," and that are, therefore, unaffected by our defeat, or by any logical or legitimate consequences therefrom. The war did not decide that our cause was based upon treason, but simply that we were unable to maintain it, leaving the question of right precisely where it found it.

The arbitrament of the sword simply declared that we were unable to cope with our Northern brethren in arms, without deciding, or attempting to decide, the question of right between the belligerents. This and this alone is the decision of the war, and this "the situation" resulting therefrom. Thus far, and no farther do we accept it.

The "acceptance of the situation" is a convenient phrase in which to hide a too great eagerness for the flesh pots of Egypt; and many men are taking advantage of it to mislead our people through their desire to fulfill their pledges of honesty. We think it high time that the covering should be stripped from such eager acceptors—men who use the livings of Heaven to serve the devil in.

Our surrender was an honorable one. In it no single degrading condition was imposed, and by it we are willing to abide. But we cannot give our assent to the idea that is becoming so prevalent, that by the terms of the surrender we are under any obligation to detract one title from the merits of our course, or that the acceptance of the situation in any shape or form truthfully implied that we must *eat dirt*. Self-respect, as well as truth, dictates this, and we hope all good men will define what they mean by "the situation and its consequences," so that the people may be rightly informed, and the designs of bad men circumscribed.

The Philadelphia Convention—Movements in the Second and Third Districts.

We learn from the Goldsboro' News, that there was to have been a meeting of the citizens of Wayne county on yesterday, in that town, to appoint delegates to a Convention for the 2nd Congressional District, to meet at Goldsboro' on the 25th inst. A meeting was held in Wadesboro', says the Argus, on Tuesday last, Col. W. G. Smith, presiding, in which the other counties of the third District were invited to join with Anson county in a District Convention, to be held at Lumberton, on Wednesday, the 26th of July inst., Col. W. G. Smith, T. W. Kendall, Col. R. T. Bennett, Jos. W. Redfern, Archie Niven and Jos. W. Allen, were selected by the meeting as delegates to represent Anson in the said Convention.

There was to be a meeting of the citizens of Richmond county, at Rockingham, on Tuesday next, the 17th inst., to take steps to have the county represented in the District Convention to be held at Lumberton, on the 26th inst.

It will be seen that the counties around us are beginning to move. We respectfully suggest that the citizens of this county meet in the Court House, in this city, on Saturday next, the 21st, for the purpose of appointing delegates to the Goldsboro' Convention.

INCREASE OF POPULATION.—We learn that a freedwoman named Julia, Clarke, residing on Castle, between Front and Second streets, on yesterday morning early, brought forth into the world, three fine and well developed children, two girls and one boy. The children are all alive and doing well, as also is their mother, and bid fair to grow up strong and healthy freedwomen and freedmen.

SPECIAL COURT.—A Special Court, for New Hanover County, was called yesterday, for the purpose of considering the cases of such prisoners who are now in custody, solely for debt and jail fees, and who are unable to meet them, and, if possible, to relieve the County from the expenses incident to their further imprisonment.

Resolved, That Jno. C. Wood, Wm. A. Wright, and Jas. Shackelford, Esqs., be a committee to act in conjunction with the Sheriff of the County, to consider the cases of all such persons as are referred to, and, if possible, make such arrangements in reference to the discharge of such prisoners as may be effective to protect the County against loss, by reason of the costs and fees due by them respectively, and if such arrangements be impracticable for the sheriff to make, to deliver the prisoners to the County Jail.

Resolved further, That the said Committee make report of their findings and doings, under the foregoing resolution, for the approval and confirmation of the Court, under the judgment of which such prisoners have respectively been imprisoned.

The above resolutions were unanimously adopted.

NEW YORK MEDICAL COLLEGE.—We have received from Mr. Oscar T. Sherman, Janitor, of the University Medical College of New York, a copy of the Annual Announcement of Lectures delivered in the above College, with a Catalogue of the Graduates.

The Winter session will open on the 15th day of October next, and be continued until the 1st of March. The pamphlet is neatly gotten up, and contains quite a list of graduates.

The Augusta Constitutionalist, in an article protesting against the unmodest fashions, which have in some cities of the South met with a favorable reception, has the following extract, which we give below. We agree with the writer, that the Pulpit and the Press should use their influence, and endeavor to prevent further "encroachments upon the morals of the people in the guise of 'Fashion'."

We have already alluded to the immodesty of these fashions, and feel that it is our duty, on all occasions, to point out their evil effects, and the immoral influences they are calculated to exert:

We know that Fashion is a divinity much worshipped and very powerful; but we have too much faith in the South to believe that she will blindly follow her decrees, now that she commands a sacrifice which calls the blush of shame to the cheek of fashion.

Last winter a number of ladies and gentlemen discontinued visiting the theatre on account of the scanty costumes of the actresses. If the ladies of the South, which we have referred to are followed in August, our ladies will be compelled to forsake the streets and possibly share their fate, and the Press and the Pulpit should bring their influence to bear against these encroachments upon the morals of the people in the guise of "Fashion."

Some weeks since a young man of the name of York, spent his mind pretty freely on the subject of tilting skirts. He demolished the female portion of his congregation, and he was more profane than any other man in the church. Noting half an hour of immoral behavior had been witnessed in New York before. He did not know that the father of these three little boys was here, as he did not go to such places, but he could not shut his eyes to the nuisance, as it existed before his eyes, in front of God's altar. He was determined to state it so far as his church was concerned, other clergymen could do as they liked.

Murder in Johnston County.

SMITHFIELD, N. C., July 10, 1866.

Messrs. Editors: Mr. Jas. H. Harrison, who kept a Mill about five miles below Smithfield, towards Goldsboro', was murdered at his house on last Friday night. He was shot. From the signs he must have been called out, (as he was in his night clothes) and shot. In the manner in which the shot took effect, he must have discovered the murderer, and was stooping forward at the time the gun fired. Mr. Harrison lived alone, and was a quiet and peaceable citizen; he was a very robust man, and was once employed by Mr. Eldred Smith, of Raleigh, as a carpenter. He was undoubtedly murdered for his money, his money was not taken out of the house. Mr. Harrison was a Virginian by birth, and about forty years of age.

No trace of the murderer has yet been discovered. This is the third man that has been murdered in this County during the last ten months. KENNESVILLE, DUKES CO., N. C., July 10th, 1866.

Messrs. Editors: On Saturday the 7th inst., a company of gentlemen met, pursuant to the call of Mr. L. Froelich, at his residence in Kenansville, for the purpose of forming a Club in view of the cultivation of grapes on a large scale, for the manufacture of wine.

The Club was formed, and is composed of thirty persons. The following officers were elected: J. Clement, President, S. Graham, Vice President, C. Sprunt, Secretary and Treasurer, L. Froelich, Corresponding Secretary.

From the opinions of many experienced gentlemen present, the Club came to the conclusion that the cultivation of grapes was more profitable than that of any other product. The members of the Club will at once commence operations, and it is hoped that before the present year closes, many hundred acres of land will be under cultivation. The meeting will be held at the Court House in Kenansville, on the 21st inst. We take an interest in the object and purposes of the Club, are invited to attend. Yours respectfully,

L. FROELICH.

From the New York Watchman.

HOW SOME OF THE MONEY WENT.

Dedicated to the Ladies of the Baltimore Fair.

BY THE AUTHOR OF THE "LAST NINETY DAYS OF THE WAR."

I think I never saw a brighter May sun, nor a bliner sky, nor greener leaves—I think the birds never sang more sweetly, the sweet-birds were never more fragrant, than on that especial morning when I started out with \$100 in my purse from the Baltimore Fair to distribute among those who were the most in need of help. One hundred dollars—how much good it was going to do—and how blest was I to be the agent of so divine a charity! Come with me, ye who love the short and simple annals of the poor, and see how the money went.

This is central North Carolina, and a part of it where the soil is white and gravelly and the hills are short and steep, and where a spring may be found in every hollow, and where you are always wondering how such great oaks can flourish on such thin soil, or how such stalwart men were raised at a place so shallow describes it felicitously in one line.

"Barren, barren, beggars all. Marry, good air!" We leave the main road after five minutes' walking from the edge of the village, and turn down a deep, stony ravine, round one of whose hills runs a low rock-wall, which, however, does not appear to have any special use, except to keep the cattle in. Some very thin and yellow blades of corn are struggling for life among them. The only things that flourish hereabouts are the mullein and the sweet-brier. We wind down the rough path, jump over a cross gully at the bottom and ascend the opposite hill, and keep him for the rest of the day. A log-cabin, perhaps the most roughly built and queerly situated of all the many rough log-cabins I have met in my life. Being on the side of a sharp hill, it is necessary to ascend a flight of steps, much like a ladder in order to enter. In this cabin lived the widow of a brave Confederate soldier who was found after the first great battle of the Wilderness—found lying dead with twelve balls in his body. One of thousands—only one of thousands. This is his widow, and these are his four children. How they have lived since he died, I know not, but I am sure they are not poor.

One corner of the room is filled up with a rude table, which rude as it is has turned out some pretty cloth, and as well woven, as any in the country; and there is an old brown spinning-wheel and two pair of cards, one a very old pair, and the other of Gov. Vance's providing in the days of the blockade. Heaven send him for the thought! The bed looks very clean and decent, with the never-fading white valance that Southern housekeepers of every degree seem to consider one of the necessary features of a bed, no matter how humble. There is a large red chest behind the door, a table, a shelf with a slender set of dozen chairs. The floor's rough planks are scrupulously clean, and the mistress of this house stands waiting to receive you with as much good breeding as any duchess. She is a brave woman, and in the face and kept him at bay behind her breastwork of loom and spinning-wheel. She has never yet asked for charity, and it would go very hard with her before she would send one of her children out on such an errand. Not one of these children but can work, and this little girl of eight years can spin as pretty a thread as her mother.

I have known this woman ever since she was a child; she comes of an honest decent stock, industrious and self-respecting. She is not of my church. She is a Methodist, and loves her church as she were, but when the Yankees came

dearly. She is not pretty, there is no romance about her appearance as she stands there sun-burnt and bare-footed, in her scanty and faded home-spun. But I know her deep poverty and her patience and her honest pride and her industry. I know that last week she was from Thursday to Saturday without a morsel of food for herself or her children. How much good do you suppose it does me to put this ten dollar bill in her hand, and say, "Mrs. B., the ladies of Baltimore send you this!"

Our next visit is nearer the village, to another log-cabin of more comfortable appearance, for it has an inclosure of half an acre around it, and there is a promising little corn-crop and some vegetables. The path to the door is shaded with large lilac-bushes, and there is a bordering of some old fashioned flowers which were young, I think, in our grandmothers' day—bachelors' buttons, maid-in-the-mist, red and white pinks and sweet-william, and here is a promising jack-in-the-box running up by the door. Every square foot of this little lot is carefully worked by the two widows who live here—a mother and her daughter. The old man died during the war. His only son and his son-in-law had been killed in battle before—and these two women have struggled on together ever since they best could. This chubby, black-eyed little boy is the soldier's orphan. The mother and daughter come in from the corn-patch, and welcome you with a self-respecting manner which is the best guarantee I know for respectability among poor people. The soldier's widow is a pale, weary, sad-looking young woman. That settled heavy cloud has never left her face for four years. As long as that black-eyed boy shall live he will have something to be proud of in the story they tell of his father's gallantry.

It was at the time of the battle of Hanover Court House—the first of the series of great battles round Richmond—the Captain of his company was ordered to join a flanking expedition with some twenty of his men. When on the other side of the Pamunkey they found themselves surrounded and about to be taken. The Captain and two of his men were of them this boy's father—three themselves in the river and swam over and were safe. But looking back he saw his little command still standing where he had left them—unable to swim—and helpless. He resolved to go back to them and share their fate. The two women who had accompanied him resolved to go with him. So they swam over the river again, and presently were taken prisoners. Eight or ten months' close confinement broke the constitution of this young officer, and he returned home from Johnson's Island with a disease fastened on him which soon laid him in the grave, and thither his young wife and child have since followed him. Of the two privates who preferred captivity to what they considered desertion of their Captain and comrades, one survived to fall at Gettysburg; the other, this boy's father, died in consequence of his last place in the river after a longer march. But he rejoined his company upon his release from prison and at the next great battle was reported "missing," nor have any certain tidings of his fate ever been received at home.

We will sit down and tell them about the Baltimore Fair, and how the ladies started, and about the great cake, and the baby-house, and such wonders as they will appreciate. As we conclude, I hand her share to the young widow, whose eyes suffuse with tears as she takes it and says in her quiet, crushed manner, "I'm very thankful, tell them."

We must cross the village to our next call, and in a neat cabin fitted up with some attention to convenience—for the husband was a cabinet-maker in a small way—we will find a pretty, delicate, blue-eyed woman, who has just risen from a long illness, and is now nursing children are twins. The baby is a stout fellow of eight months, too stout for her to be carrying in her feeble arms. Her mother is on a low bed, sitting up at her sewing. For fifteen years she has not walked a step. But she is industrious and cheerful and is as sensible, reliable a countenance as one of the fairer sex. The father of these three little boys was taken prisoner at Petersburg, and kept in a Point Lookout prison nearly a year, and when the war was over and his wife was looking daily to see him, the news came by a comrade that after long suffering he had been in prison just at the time of our surrender. She took her allotted share and says quietly, "This will be a great help." She lost husband, brother, and brother-in-law in the war. We will go down to her brother's widow whose cabin is further in the woods a few hundred yards hence. Here too are three children whose inheritance is, that their father did his duty for his native State, and was blown to pieces by a shell in the second year of the great war. This widow has a face which, when I knew her a blooming girl, would have been called handsome anywhere, and which, still, though she is now old and worn and haggard for want of food, is prepossessing and interesting. A bright, dark eye and a frank, cheerful address as properly belongs to all brunettes, and a pair of hands which she says "can turn to almost anything." She has not tasted meat for more than a month, she says of this ten dollar bill: "You don't know how glad I am and thankful; it is a fortune to me."

It is one characteristic of all our Southern poor that no matter how humble their circumstances they will always see their beds neatly made up and decent-looking. Here you see the inevitable valance is drawn over the bed, and the bed is as pretty too. A little piece of fringed netting covers the top of the old bed-box and of the little pine table. I like to see these slender adornments.—You very seldom see any attempt to raise flowers. They change their names so frequently to feel any interest in out-door esthetics. Very seldom any of them remain in the same cabin two consecutive years. Tempted by the offer of a dollar or two lower rent, or as is often the case with a soldier's widow, of no rent at all, they are content, moving from one poor place to another, and they are sure to find a greater and better place for their landlards. The second house we entered on our round this morning is almost the only instance I know in this neighborhood where the tenant has remained for several years. And the result is apparent in the parlour in the door and the door and the door.

In one respect I suppose the cottages of our poor differ now greatly from those of the corresponding class at the North. There are no trophies of the war—no portraits—no pictures. The poor Confederate soldier, though he was a great hero, has no medals. There was never any thing to put up on our bare walls that could give us an idea of what was done in our army, or how our Generals looked, and there are no outside traces or mementoes to be seen now among the common people of the great Government and the heroic struggle of game and vent, leaving nothing but a name. But few comparatively of our brave soldiers and widows even possess likenesses of those who died, for there were no means for procuring them, no daguerrean or photograph establishments in existence after the first year.

Here and there you may find a Dixie primer whose dingy print and worn out-type and pictorial phrases would convince the outside world that the South took a leap fifty years backward in civilization when she set up for herself. Then as to the Dixie geographies and maps and grammars well, there is no use talking about it. Here I see this soldier's orphan has a new blue-backed Webster's spelling-book, and I am not sorry for it.

Let us go up and down these stony hills for a mile or so in the country. There is no such thing as fatigue to be felt this morning. Such an error-type of her son, and her tears ran down her cheeks. How many tears have been shed over that little case in the last three years! She tells us with something of triumph in her tone that she brought her son back: "I felt better satisfied to have him living here than in North Carolina, but I never knew where they were, and I never saw him. I had a plenty of things as they were, but when the Yankees came

they stripped her home—they took all my bed-clothes and broke me clean up."

Not all the houses to be visited this morning are like this. Some are better, and some are worse. Log-houses. There are those whose need is not so great, and yet whom we approach with hesitation, fearing to wound. Sacred be the sorrows and struggles of those who have known better days! Struggles with the poverty that has come upon them like an armed man, struggles with their pride, struggles against utter unbelief and despair amidst bitter memories and hopeless prospects.

The entire stagnation of all business, which makes it impossible for our people to get work, the general depression produced by the unsettled and discordant state of public affairs, the irreconcilable parties and feuds that have grown out of the war, the loss of hope, faith, and charity which is even more apparent now than twelve months ago—all these things call for speedy action on the part of our friends at the North.—They must come over and help us in the councils of the nation ere starvation and despair have done what the sword could not do in crushing out the life and spirit of a great and noble people.

God bless, and forever, the ladies of Baltimore, at home and abroad, in their basket and their arms, in life and in death. May all generations remember their charity which came as from heaven when our need was sorest, long after each gentle woman who aided in providing it has heard from the lips of our common Lord:

"Inasmuch as ye did it unto one of the least of these, my brethren, ye did it unto me."

Terrible Suicide—Life in New York.—Suicide of a Mistress—She Shoots Herself on the Doorstep of Her Betrayer.

New York, that city of great horrors, was again the scene of a terrible tragedy on last Friday.—It appears that a young woman, named Eleanor Jones, called at the house of a man named Von Frech, and desired to see him. She was informed that she could not see him, but as she insisted upon entering, the door was slammed in her face. The visitor then took from her dress pocket a small single barreled pistol, placed the muzzle to the center of her breast and fired, the ball passing into and out of her body. She was conveyed to Bellevue Hospital, but on reaching that institution, life was found to be extinct. The Tribune says:

The deceased claimed that she was legally married to the Doctor, as she could prove, and "that they had lived together with Mrs. Zeiss as man and wife. During that interval a child was born, but lived only six weeks. About a month before the morning on which she related the story to the Sergeant, she stated that Von Frech informed her that he had never provided a legal divorce from his first wife, and that he was apprehensive that she might discover the fact of his second marriage and prosecute him. Therefore he thought it would be better for her (the deceased) to go to Boston, where she has a father and sister residing, and remain there until he could so arrange matters here that she might return with safety to himself. Believing all the statements made on the proposed trip, and remained in Boston until she received information from a sure source that Von Frech was about to marry another woman, to whom he had been very devoted during her absence. She at once came to this city, arriving here on the same day on which she was called to the station house, but too late to prevent the marriage, which had already been consummated.

Deceased was, as we have stated, a native of Boston, Massachusetts, but was educated and passed the greater portion of her girlhood in Virginia. During the late war she was in the admiration of the South, and was, on one or two occasions, arrested by General I. C. Baker for having furnished information of importance, by letter, to the Confederate authorities. Her deportment was very lady-like, and her conversation was that of a person of culture and refinement. Her relations in Boston were said to be quite wealthy, and occupy a good position in society.—Since her departure with the Doctor she has been boarding with Mrs. Margaret Kelly, at No. 429, Second avenue.

The New York Herald says: Deceased was about five feet five inches in height, with blue eyes, a beautiful set of teeth, and a profusion of dark brown hair. She was a woman of remarkable conversational powers, fine personal appearance and very fascinating in her manners, she seems to have had no relatives or friends willing to